INTRODUCTION

What Aldo Rossi is really saying, in the quote above, is that he is concerned about more than the just pragmatic solutions. He is concerned about discussing the great and lasting themes in life. For Rossi these discussions are part of long established “conversations” that architects have had among themselves since the beginning. Such conversations are not only verbal, but are carried out in the works of architecture themselves. It is these conversations that distinguish Architecture from mere building.

INTENT

This course has two intents. The first intent is to introduce you to the fundamental architectural “Conversations” which have developed through the history of Architecture until the Modern period. These conversations were dramatically altered by the advent of Modernism. In this regard Modernism can be seen to have made a “breach” in the history of Architecture. The second intent of this course is to make the student aware of the resultant problems and to show how the fundamental conversations can be continued.

COROLLARY

This course requires the development of several types of expertise. The first expertise is looking at the architectural compositions and seeing (as Holmes would say) how they are organized. The second expertise is understanding the the implications of the organization and observing (Holmes again) the thematic and cultural associations. The third expertise is thinking about what you have seen and observed and critically placing these thoughts in the larger conversations about life, death, and imagination (Rossi).

STRUCTURE

A particular approach to the lectures will be used to develop the required expertise for the course. Each lecture will present a general theoretical framework: introducing the student to a way of seeing and observing. Then a particular building or buildings will be examined in some detail: introducing the student to ways of making critical assessments in terms of the fundamental conversations.

EVALUATION

The concepts in this course are not difficult, but the combination of verbal and visual concepts is sometimes daunting. Simple testing seems to provide an expedient means of assessing a student’s integration of the material. The course is cumulative. Students will be evaluated by the following percentages: 1st quiz, 25%. Second quiz, 25%. Final, 25%. Additional special projects will be announced during the course which will make up the last 25% of the grade.
READING

Le Corbusier  Towards a New Architecture, Create Space. ISBN-10: 1466216395

Schedule

Part I – Origins (First Conversations)

Aug 22 t  INTRODUCTION
  de Botton: The Significance of Architecture, pp. 10-13
  Hoffman: Talarico, Taking the Elective Out of Environmental Education, pp. 201-206

24 th  ARCHITECTUE & BUILDING - The Hamilton Wing of the Denver Art Museum
  de Botton: The Significance of Architecture, pp.14-26
  Heschong: Necessity, pp. 1-10, Delight, pp. 18-30
  Canizaro: Berry, The Regional Motive, pp.36-40
  Weston: Wright, NY Guggenheim Museum, pp.88-89
  Weston: Kahn, Kimbell Art Museum, pp.158-159
  Weston: Gehry, Bilbao Guggenheim Museum, pp.226-227
Identification: Louis I. Kahn / The Kimbell Art Museum / Fort Worth, Texas / 1974

29 t  SHELTERING & DWELLING
  Hoffman: Stone, A Passive Solar, Straw-Bale School, pp. 185-190
  Weston: Murcutt, Ball-Eastway House and Studio, pp. 196-197
Identification: Emperor Temmu / Ise Shrine / Uji-tachi, Japan / 690 AD
  Glenn Murcutt / Ball Eastaway House / Sydney Australia / 1983

31 th  MODELING
  Heschong: Sacredness, pp. 66-70
  Weston: Taut, Glass Pavilion, pp. 40-41,
  Weston: Stirling, Staatsgalerie, pp.186-189
Identification: Hadrian, Pantheon, Rome, Italy. 126 AD
  Donato Bramante / Tempietto / Rome, Italy / 1502
  Francesco Borromini / San Carlo Alle Quattro Fontane / Rome, Italy / 1641
  Etienne-Louis Boullée / Cenotaph to Newton / - / 1784
PYRAMID POWER
Le Corbusier: Regulating Lines, pp. 63-79
Identification: Cheops / The Great Pyramid / Giza, Egypt / 2560 BC

07 th
FOUNDING & EXAMPLES
Heschong: Necessity 11-12, Sacredness, pp. 50-55, 70-72
Hoffman: Browning, Biomimicry, Biophilia, and Building Community, pp. 55-60
Hoffman: Clark & Tice, Haymount: Planning a Sustainable Town, pp. 68-76
Weston: Asplund, Stockholm Library, pp. 42-4
Identification: Emperor Diocletian / Diocteion's Palace / Split, Croatia / 305 AD
Gunmar Asplund / Stockholm Library / Stockholm, Sweden / 1927

ENGAGEMENT
Canizaro: Pavlides, Four Approaches to Regionalism in Architecture, pp. 156-167
Heschong: Affection, pp. 31-49, Sacredness, 55-57
Weston: Wright, Falling Water, pp. 78-79
Weston: Aalto, Villa Mairea, pp. 86-87
Identification: Frank Lloyd Wright / Falling Water / Bear Run, Pennsylvania / 1937
Alvar Aalto / Villa Mairea / Noormarkku, Finland / 1940

14 th
“GATHERING”
Canizaro: Dodge, Living by Life: Some Bioregional Theory and Practice, 341-349
Weston: Piano, Tjibaou Cultural Center, pp. 228-229
Weston: Mecanoo, The Library at Delft, pp. 230-231
Christo / The Running Fence Project / California / 1976

19 th
REMEMBERING
Heschong: Sacredness, pp. 58-65
Weston: Plecnik, Church of the Sacred Heart, pp. 56-57
Identification: Ictinos & Callicrates / The Parthenon / Athens, Greece / 432 BC
Andrea Palladio / Villa Rotunda / Vicenza, Italy / 1566

21 th
THE CLASSICAL CONVERSATION
Le Corbusier: Architecture: Pure Creation of the Mind, pp. 185-207
de Botton: In What Style Shall we Build?, pp. 28-34
de Botton: Ideals of Home, pp. 123-140
Weston: Asplund, Gothenburg Law Courts Annex, pp. 76-77
Identification: None

Quiz #1 - In Class
Part II – Modernity (The Great Breach)

26 th

“BREACHING”

de Botton: In What Style Shall We Build?, pp. 38-54
Canizaro: Ricoeur, Universal Civilization and National Cultures, pp. 42-53
Le Corbusier, The Engineer’s Aesthetic and Architecture, pp. 7-24
Weston: Wright, Robie House, pp.34-35
Weston: Mendelsohn, Einstein Tower, pp. 44-45
Identification: Frank Lloyd Wright / Robie House / Chicago, Illinois / 1909
Eric Mendelsohn / Einstein Tower / Potsdam 1924

28 th

THE ONTOLOGY OF THE MODERN OBJECT

de Botton: In What Style Shall we Build?, pp. 54-62
Le Corbusier: Eyes that do not See: Liners, pp. 81-97
Weston: Rietveld, Schroder Hse, pp.48-49,
Weston: van der Rohe, Barcelona Pavilion, pp. 58-59,
Weston: Le Corbusier, Villa Savoye, pp. 62-63
Identification: Mies van der Rohe / Barcelona Pavilion / Barcelona, Spain / 1929
Le Corbusier / The Villa Savoye / Poissy, France / 1931

Oct 03 th

MODERN REVOLUTION

de Botton: In What Style Shall We Build?, pp. 62-73
Le Corbusier: Architecture or Revolution, pp. 250-269
Heschong: Necessity, pp. 13-17
Canizaro: Morrison, After the International Style - What?, pp. 281-287
Weston: Neutra, Lovell House, pp. 54-55,
Weston: van der Rohe, Tugendhat House, pp. 60-61,
Weston: Scharoun, Schminke House, pp.72-73
Identification: Le Corbusier / Villa Stein / Garches, France / 1929
Michael Graves / Snyderman House / Fort Wayne, Indiana / 1972

05 th

CONTINUITY

de Botton: Ideals of the Home, pp. 118-123, 153-168
Venturi: Theory of Ugly and Ordinary and Related and Contrary Theories, pp. 128-145
Identification: Charles Garnier / Paris Opera / Paris, France / 1875

10 th

CONFLATIONS: TADAO ANDO

Hoffman: Bearden, Cool Roofs, pp. 221-227
Weston: Ando, Koshino House, pp. 190-191
Identification: Tadao Ando / Azuma House / Osaka, Japan / 1976
Tadao Ando / Koshino House / Ashiya Japan / 1984
Tadao Ando / Church on the Water / Hokkaido, Japan / 1988

Part III Interlude and End (The “Post” Syndrome)

12 th

POST-EVERYTHINGISM

de Botton: Talking Buildings, pp. 78-93
Canizaro: Pallasmaa, Tradition and Modernity: The Feasability of Regional Architecture in a
Post-Modern Society, pp. 129-139
Venturi: Some Definitions Using the Comparative Method, pp. 87-103
Weston: Venturi, Venturi’s Mother’s House, pp.144-145
Identification: Robert Venturi / Venturi’s Mother's House / Philadelphia, Pennsylvania / 1964

Quiz #2 - in Class
17 th  
**RETURN OF POST-EVERYTHINGISM**
- de Botton: Talking Buildings, pp. 93-100
- Venturi: *Historical and Other Precedents: Towards an Old Architecture*, pp. 104-145
- Weston: Miralles, *Civic Center*, pp. 216-217
- Weston: Libeskind, *Jewish Museum*, pp. 222-223

*Identification:*  
- Peter Eisenman / Wexner Center / Ohio State University / 1989  
- Daniel Libeskind / Jewish Museum / Berlin, Germany / 1998

19 th  
**REGIONAL POSSIBILITIES: THE CREEDE AFFAIR**
- Canizaro:, Frampton, *Ten Points on an Architecture of Regionalism*, pp. 375-385
- de Botton: *The Ideals of Home*, pp. 140-152
- Weston: MLTW, *Condominium at Sea Ranch*, pp 156-157

*Identification:*  
- None

Part IV - The Constants (Conversations Continued)

24 th  
**SPACE**
- de Botton: *Ideals of the Home*, pp. 106-118
- Weston: Zumthor, *Thermal Baths*, pp. 210-211

*Identification:*  
- Guarino Guarini / S.S. Sindone / Turin, Italy / 1690  
- Steven Holl / Chapel of St. Ignatius / Seattle, Washington / 1997

26 th  
**BUILDING**
- de Botton, *The Virtues of Building*, pp. 195-213
- Weston: Chareau, *Maison de Verre*, pp. 64-65
- Weston: Foster, *Hong Kong Bank*, pp. 192-193

*Identification:*  
- Dutert & Contamin / Palais Des Machines / Paris, France / 1889  

31 th  
**THE JOY OF CORNERS**
- Weston: Kahn, *Richard's Medical Center*, pp. 130-131

*Identification:*  
- Louis I. Kahn / Erdman Hall / Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania / 1965

Part V – Designing (The Architect’s Dilemma)

Nov 02 th  
**RIGHT VS. LEFT**
- de Botton: *Ideals of Home*, pp. 140-152
- de Botton: *The Virtues of Building*, pp. 214-238
- Le Corbusier: *Architecture: The Illusion of Plans*, pp. 163-184
- Canizaro: Speck, *Regionalism and Invention*, pp. 70-79

*Identification:*  
- Mario Botta / Watari-Um Museum / Tokyo, Japan / 1990

07 t  
**PRACTICE**
- de Botton: *The Virtues of Buildings*, pp. 175-193
- Le Corbusier: Three Reminders to Architects, pp. 25-62

*Identifications:*  
- None
CRITICISM
Weston: Scharoun, Philharmonie Hall, pp. 126-127

Identification: Peter Eisenman / House VI / Cornwall, Connecticut / 1975
Hans Scharoun / Philharmonic Hall / Berlin, Germany / 1963
Greene & Greene / Gambell House / Pasadena, California / 1908
Alvar Aalto / Alajari Town Hall / Alajari, Finland / 1966

THE LOST COURT
Venturi: Theory of Ugly and Ordinary and Related and Contrary Theories, pp. 146-163
Weston: Le Corbusier, La Tourette, pp. 114-115

Identification: Le Corbusier / La Tourette / Eveux-sur-Arbresle, France / 1957

Part VI - Larger Issues (Place and Time)

CITIES
16 th
de Botton: The Virtues of Buildings, pp. 239-249
Hoffman: Ambaz, Green Towns, pp. 83-90

Identification: Auguste Perret / Palace of the Soviets Project / Moscow, USSR / 1931
Le Corbusier / Palace of the Soviets Project / Moscow, USSR / 1931

Fall Break No Reading
23 th Fall Break No Reading

ROME
28 th
Le Corbusier: Architecture: The Lesson of Rome, pp. 139-161

Identification: None

REGENERATIVE ARCHITECTURE
30 th
de Botton: The Promise of a Field, pp. 251-274
Hoffman: Balmori, Living Buildings, pp. 24-28
Canizaro: Coates, Biotechnology and Regional Intetration, pp. 350-360
Weston: Foreign Office Architects, Yokohama Ferry Terminal, pp. 234-235
Weston: MVRDV, Dutch Pavilion, pp. 246-247

Identification: Foreign Office Architects / Ferry Terminal / Yokohama, Japan / 2002
MVRDV / Dutch Pavilion / Hanover, Germany / 2000

Part VII - Last Chance

Dec 05 t Meetings with Instructor
07 th Meetings with Instructor

Dec 12 – 14 FINALS WEEK

END

NOTES